



NEWSCAST

The Newsletter of the Marine Recreational Information Program

NOAA
FISHERIES



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[AFS Symposium](#)

The Marine Recreational Information Program, or MRIP, is the way NOAA Fisheries is counting and reporting marine recreational catch and effort. It is a customer-driven initiative that not only produces better estimates, but does so through a process grounded in the principles of transparency, accountability and engagement.

For More Information:

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AFS Symposium: Survey Methods for Monitoring Recreational Fisheries in Support of Stock Assessments and Fisheries Management

Each year the [American Fisheries Society \(AFS\)](#) brings together fisheries scientists and managers from all over the world. This year, the annual meeting was held in Portland, OR August 16-20, 2015.

Overview

MRIP, with U.S. and international colleagues, hosted a two day symposium at the American Fisheries Society annual meeting on recreational fishing survey methods. Presenters represented 33 organizations and 9 countries, not to mention the full room each day of conference participants.

Presentations spanned a wide range of topics, from telephone and mail surveys to mobile electronic data applications to collecting catch and effort information via social media sources. However, all presentations focused on the important and growing effect the recreational fishery has on stock assessments and fisheries management for both salt and freshwater; as for many fish stocks, the recreational fishing sector takes a significant fraction of the total amount of fish caught in a given year. Additionally, the symposium allowed many of the research teams that MRIP has funded over the years to present results of their pilot projects to improve survey designs and programs to a broad scientific community. We had project updates from Alaska, Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and the Pacific Islands. You can access the symposium schedule with abstracts at the links below, and can always find project updates on the [MRIP Projects](#) page.

Overall, the symposium was a huge success and we know that all of our scientists came away with new ideas, feedback, and a better understanding of recreational survey methods in use around the world.

You can view the symposium and presentation abstracts at the links below.

[Day 1: August 19, 2015](#)

[Day 2: August 20, 2015](#)

Symposium Organizers

- Rob Andrews, National marine Fisheries Service
- Kieran Hyder, Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science, United Kingdom
- Jeremy Lyle, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania
- Maggie Sommer, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Dave Van Voorhees, National Marine Fisheries Service

Ask MRIP

Do you have questions about MRIP or our surveys? Ask us and we'll answer your question in an upcoming newsletter. If you've got a question about MRIP that you'd like answered, please e-mail Leah Sharpe at Leah.Sharpe@noaa.gov.

To learn more about improvements MRIP is making, visit our website at www.countmyfish.noaa.gov.